

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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December 15, 2000

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Magalie R. Salas, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW. Room 222 Washington D.C. 20554 DEC 2 0 2000

FCC MAIL ROOM

RE:

CC Docket No. 00-199 – Initial Comments of the WUTC in the Matter of 2000 Biennial Review – Comprehensive Review of the Accounting Requirements and ARMIS Report Requirements for Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers: Phase 2.

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to Sections 1.49, 1.415, and 1.419 of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Rules of Practice and Procedures, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Washington UTC) respectfully submits these comments on the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking adopted October 12, 2000, and released October 18, 2000.

In 1999, the FCC initiated a two-phased comprehensive review of its accounting rules and the related reporting requirements for incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs). In this NPRM, the FCC is seeking comment regarding its proposals to further streamline accounting and reporting requirements for ILECs in the near term (Phase 2) and the long term (Phase 3).

Generally, the Washington UTC applauds the efforts of the FCC to streamline and make more efficient the accounting and reporting requirements for these companies. However, we are concerned that streamlining not occur at the expense of necessary recordkeeping for both state and federal purposes.

The Washington UTC has reviewed Docket No. 00-199 and the reply comments of the NARUC, and agrees and endorses the comments of the NARUC on this matter.

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Ms. Magalie R. Salas, Secretary Page 2 December 15, 2000

So long as there are universal service funds, revenue sharing plans, regulated services, and carriers of last resort, there must be consistent accounting and reporting requirements for all carriers. CFR Part 32, Uniform System of Accounts (USOA), and ARMIS encourage each jurisdiction to prescribe a single accounting system instead of 52 systems. The Washington UTC requires the use of CFR Parts 32, 36, 64, and 69.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Showalter

Chairwoman

Richard Hemstad

Commissioner

William R. Gillis

Commissioner